

NWS FORM E-5 (11-88) (PRES. BY WSOM E-41)	U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE	HYDROLOGIC SERVICE AREA (HSA) WFO Jackson, Mississippi
MONTHLY REPORT OF RIVER AND FLOOD CONDITIONS		REPORT FOR: MONTH YEAR January 2003
TO: Hydrometeorological Information Center, W/OH2 NOAA / National Weather Service 1325 East West Highway, Room 7230 Silver Spring, MD 20910-3283		SIGNATURE Alan Gerard, MIC In Charge of HSA DATE February 11th , 2003

When no flooding occurs, include miscellaneous river conditions, such as significant rises, record low stages, ice conditions, snow cover, droughts, and hydrologic products issued (WSOME-41)

Synopsis...

January was vastly different from the previous 3 months. The northern jet stream prevailed over the HSA during the month bringing with it much colder and drier weather.

A cold front and an associated low pressure moved through the area from the last day of December into the morning of the New Year. 24 hour rainfall reports ending at 7am on New Years day ranged from less than .25 inches to near 3 inches at Brooksville, MS.

A series of cold Fronts pushed through the area around the 2nd, 10th, 16th, 23rd, 25th and 26th, and 31st. Precipitation amounts were generally light with the passage of these fronts, mainly .50 inches or less. Some light frozen precipitation (snow flurries or sleet) occurred in some areas of the HSA around the 12th, 16th and the 23rd.

The most significant rainfall event occurred during the final several days of the month. A very slow moving cold front pushed across the area from the 29th to the 30th. Rainfall amounts ranged from around .25 inches to about 2.50 inches. Heaviest storm total rainfall occurred at the following locations: Paulding, MS 2.40 inches, Raleigh, MS 2.25 inches, Goshen Springs, MS 2.17 inches, Dlo, MS 2.13 inches, Collinsville, MS 1.98 inches and Crystal Springs Agricultural Center in Copiah County, MS 1.83 inches.

River and Soil Conditions...

Rainfall for the month was well below normal over the entire HSA. If not for the rainfall near the end of the month, January 2003 would have gone into the record books as the driest January on record for many locations. The dry conditions during the month allowed soil moisture to return to near normal conditions. Minor flooding, mainly from late December rainfall, occurred early in the month along the Big Black, Big Sunflower, Pearl, and the Yalobusha Rivers. Rainfall during the last several days of the month once again pushed portions of the Big Black and the Yalobusha back above flood stage. With normal to above normal rainfall expected especially over southern sections of the HSA, flood potential for HSA rivers should remain normal to slightly above normal. See the January E-3 report for information on flood crests.

Rainfall for the month of January...

<u>RIVER BASIN</u>	<u>RAINFALL</u>	<u>DEPARTURE FROM NORMS</u>
<i>Southeast Arkansas (Chicot & Ashley counties)</i>	<i>0.50 to 1.25 inches</i>	<i>Much below normal.</i>
<i>Northeast Louisiana (Tensas, Boeuf, Bayou Macon & Lower Ouachita)</i>	<i>0.50 to 1.25 inches northern sections</i>	<i>Much below normal.</i>
	<i>1.25 to 2.75 inches central sections</i>	<i>Much below normal.</i>
	<i>1.75 to 2.50 inches southern section</i>	<i>Much below normal</i>
<i>Lower Yazoo</i>	<i>0.75 to 3.00 inches</i>	<i>Much below normal.</i>
<i>Big Black</i>	<i>3.00 to 3.75 inches upper section</i>	<i>Much below normal.</i>
	<i>1.50 to 2.75 inches lower and middle sections</i>	<i>Much below normal.</i>
<i>Homochitto/ Bayou Pierre</i>	<i>1.50 to 2.25 inches</i>	<i>Much below normal.</i>
<i>Pearl (abv Jackson)</i>	<i>1.75 to 2.50 inches</i>	<i>Much below normal.</i>
<i>Pearl (Blo Jackson)</i>	<i>1.50 to 3.50 inches</i>	<i>Much below normal.</i>
<i>Pascagoula</i>	<i>1.00 to 3.00 inches over the Leaf basin.</i>	<i>Much below normal.</i>
	<i>1.50 to 2.00 inches over the Black Creek basin.</i>	<i>Much below normal.</i>
	<i>1.75 to 3.25 inches over the Chickasawhay</i>	<i>Much below normal.</i>
<i>Tombigbee tributaries in the JAN HSA</i>	<i>1.50 to 4.75 inches</i>	<i>Below to much below normal.</i>

The heaviest rainfall amounts in the HSA for the month were: 4.76 inches at Brooksville, MS; 3.86 inches at Tibbee, MS; 3.76 inches at Vaiden, MS; 3.48 inches at Eupora, MS; 3.32 inches at Shubuta, MS; 3.10 inches at Macon, MS; 3.05 inches at Starkeville, MS.

Here at the Jackson WFO, the January monthly rainfall was 1.26 inches, which was 4.41 inches below normal. Rainfall over the last several days of the month kept January 2003 from being the driest on record.

At the Meridian Airport, the January monthly rainfall was 1.58 inches, which was 4.34 inches below normal.

Mississippi River...

The Mississippi River from Arkansas City, AR to Natchez, MS began the month above seasonal norms; however by the end of the month, these points were all well below seasonal norms.

The provisional high and low stages for January are listed below:

<i>Location</i>	<i>High Stage(ft)</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Low Stage(ft)</i>	<i>Date</i>
<i>Arkansas City, AR</i>	<i>22.36</i>	<i>01/01</i>	<i>2.99</i>	<i>01/31</i>
<i>Greenville, MS</i>	<i>33.90</i>	<i>01/01</i>	<i>14.41</i>	<i>01/31</i>
<i>Vicksburg, MS</i>	<i>30.30</i>	<i>01/01</i>	<i>9.10</i>	<i>01/31</i>
<i>Natchez,MS</i>	<i>38.40</i>	<i>01/01</i>	<i>17.22</i>	<i>01/30</i>

Products issued...

Total Flood Warning products issued: 3

Total Flood Statement products issued: 83

Daily Rainfall Products (RRA'S) issued 31

Daily River Forecast Products (RVS'S) issued 31

Daily River Stage products (RVA'S) issued 31

*Marty V. Pope
Service Hydrologist*

Note: Stage and precipitation data was furnished with cooperation from Mississippi, Louisiana, and Arkansas, N.W.S. Cooperative Observers, United States Geological Survey, United States Army Corps of Engineers and the Pearl River Valley Water Supply District, Pat Harrison Waterway District, and the Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality.

*cc: USGS Little Rock District
USGS Ruston District
USCE Mobile District
USCE Vicksburg District
USCE Mississippi Valley Division
USGS Mississippi District
SRH Climate, Weather and Water Division
LMRFC
Pearl River Valley Water Supply District
Hydrologic Information Center
Southern Region Climate Center
Pat Harrison Waterway District*